

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS
STANDARDS AND TRAINING FOR LOCAL CORRECTIONS AND
PROBATION OFFICERS
Title 15-Crime Prevention and Corrections
Division 1, Chapter 1, Subchapter 1**

Article 3. Minimum Standards for Training

Section 173, Probation Officer Core Course: The proposed revision to the regulation will result in an increase in the minimum hours of instruction from 174 hours to 196 hours, for the Probation Officer Core Course. In response to concerns from the field regarding the adequacy of the Core Course, the Corrections Standards Authority conducted the Probation Officer Core Course Revision project. This project was divided into the following three phases: initial information gathering; curriculum revision; and review and distribution. Information about the Probation Officer Core Course and the Probation Officer job specifications was incorporated from the most recent job analysis and from various constituents of the course. Representatives of the Chief Probation Officers of California (CPOC), were provided with a review of the research that was going to be conducted to revise the course. The next phase consisted of identifying the topics for the course and developing the course objectives. Finally, a total of 7 task force meetings were held at the CSA, involving 50 representative participants to complete the comprehensive recommended revisions. The job analysis involved input from local probation officers, supervisors, instructors and subject matter experts. The information was collected through a process of task force groups, on-site observations, document reviews, and written surveys.

The data and subsequent input indicated the need to increase the minimum number of hours in the Probation Officer Core Course from 174 hours to 196 hours in order to ensure staff proficiency in performing newly identified and expanded tasks.